which I will be able to share with the hon. Members very soon and even today. And, it is our intention to do all that we can to enable domestic industry to benefit from diversification in to tuna. It requires long liners, it requires processing on-board and the hon. Member is right when he says that there is a substantial potential for export of tuna, particularly, to Japan and South-East Asia, which we have not exploited. I believe, Sir, that this is one very important area as far as marine products are concerned, the movement away from our dependence on shrimp to tuna.

Export of marine products

*282. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of marine products in 2006-07 and 2007-08 upto 31.01.2008;

(b) whether it is a fact that export of value added marine products has not grown in the year 2006-07;

(c) what role Marine Product Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has played in bringing better marketing techniques and advice to this export in the current year;

(d) whether there is a need to frequently upgrade the level of skills and knowledge and capability of MPEDA;

(e) the steps proposed to enhance skills and knowledge at MPEDA; and

(f) the measures proposed to review the role of MPEDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The total exports of marine products during 2006-07 and 2007-08 up to January, 2008 are given below:—

Particulars	2006-2007	2007-2008 (April, 2007 to January, 2008)
Quantity in Tonnes	612641	435873
Value in Rs. Crore	8363.53	6266.69
US $ in Million	1852.93	1556.09

(b) Exports of value added items have grown steadily over the last five years as per the details below:—

Year	Quantity (Tonne)	Value (Rs. Crore)	US $ (Million)
2002-03	10787	203.52	42.15
2003-04	13423	243.28	53.08
2004-05	17880	331.44	73.78
2005-06	21778	387.82	87.98
2006-07	21406	417.97	92.70

(c) In order to improve and adopt better marketing techniques, the following steps have been taken by MPEDA:

(i) Participation in major international fairs world-wide to strengthen the existing markets and capture new markets. MPEDA participated in 7 international fairs during 2006-07, and in 8 major fairs held in Japan, USA, Brazil, EU, China, Russia, etc. during the current year.

(ii) Advertisements in selected international and reputed commercial magazines and journals published from UK, USA, Japan, etc. to publicize India's fishery resources, infra-structural developments and capabilities in producing and exporting value added products.

(iii) Organising buyer seller meets during the major international seafood fairs. A major market promotion event was organized in conjunction with the European Seafood Exposition, 2007 at Brussels.

(iv) Organising the Biennial India International Seafood show in major cities in India in association with Seafood Exporters Association of India. The 16th Fair in the series was held in Kochi from 8-10th February 2008. Events such as these provide the buyers and sellers an opportunity to evolve suitable strategies for forging trade relationships for mutual benefits.

(v) Engagement of a reputed professional agency as a consultant to promote Indian Seafood in overseas retail markets like EU, USA and Japan and to create a brand image for Indian Sea food in major overseas super Markets.

(vi) Extension of Developmental Assistance to boost the export of Ornamental Aquarium Fishes from India enabling an exporter to get a Developmental Assistance of 10% of FOB value of exports subject to a maximum of Rs. 3 lakh per exporter per year.

(vii) Thrust to export of tuna fish and fishery products, by conversion of vessels, training in tuna longlining and on board handling of fish. A special delegation was also deputed to visit Japan to strengthen marketing ties.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir; there is a need to upgrade the level of skills, knowledge and capability of the staff of MPEDA frequently.

MPEDA is taking the following steps to upgrade knowledge and skill base of its human resources:—

(i) MPEDA has signed an MOU with IIM Ahmedabad to conduct a study on its Performance appraisal system with the aim of revamping its organizational structure.

(ii) Organizing short term HR training programmes on the marine sector for MPEDA officials through the faculty members from reputed management institutions like, CIFNET, IIFT, IIM, etc.

(iii) Organizing field orientation training programmes as per the need of the officials to improve their knowledge base in concerned subjects and depute them to other institutions for participating in the training programmes related to their relevant subject.

(iv) Leadership training.

(v) Frequent, intensive in-house orientation training for the officers.

(vi) Training of officers in latest technologies in aquaculture in various national and international institutes.

(vii) Sponsoring officials to attend international seminars/symposia etc. for updating their knowledge levels.

(viii) Besides organizing in-house trainings, MPEDA is deputing its officers abroad for various trainings/seminars/workshops being organized by international organizations like Euopean Commission, US FDA, NMFS, for acquiring and enhancing their technical competency.

(f) MPEDA has prepared Vision document outlining the strategic roadmap for the marine products export sector. Among the interventions envisaged are:

(i) Expansion and diversification of aquaculture.

(ii) Exploration of our unexploited deep sea fishing resources, particularly tuna.

(iii) Substantive increase in value addition.

(iv) Making India a processing hub.

श्री एस॰ एम॰ लालजन बाशा: चेयरमैन सर, मैरीन प्रोडक्ट्स एक्सपोर्ट डेवलपमेंट अथोरिटी ने तकरीबन 40 साल पहले केरल को बेस बनाकर वहां अपना आफिस बनाया। अभी पिछले 15-20 साल से आन्ध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात, वेस्ट बंगाल में तकरीबन 70 परसेंट एक्सपोर्ट वहीं से हो रहा है। यह इसलिए एक्सपोर्ट हो रहा है, क्योंकि वहां पर उसकी मांग भी है। यदि यह आफिस वहां से शिफ्ट करके आंध्र प्रदेश में खोला जाए, तो बहुत ही अच्छा होगा। जब 70 परसेंट वहां पर है तो केरल में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री एस॰ एम॰ लालजन बाशा: मेरा सवाल यही है कि वह वहां से यह क्यों चेंज नहीं हो रहा है? माननीय मंत्री जी से जो उत्तर मिला है, इसमें Tuna fish का भी ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

श्री एस॰ एम॰ लालजन बाशा: मंत्री जी तो बहुत ही काबिल मंत्री हैं। यदि ये फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री में रहते तो और अच्छा रहता, लेकिन इस मंत्रालय में आए ...(व्यवधान)... कमल नाथ जी तो बिजी है। ये MPEDA के मामले में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री एस॰ एम॰ लालजन बाशा: सर, मेरा यही सवाल है कि आज बाहर जो फॉरेन करेंसी लाने की बात है, यह बहुत बड़ी बात है। इसमें कोई इंवेस्टमेंट भी नहीं है। मैंने सिर्फ ऑन्सर देखा है, जो फॉरेन जाने का सभी ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the questions.

श्री एस॰ एम॰ लालजन बाशा: लेकिन आप उसके ऊपर क्या सही स्टेप और कौन सा स्टेप लेना चाहते हैं और इसको कैसे इम्प्रूव करना चाहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)... वहां पर जो 70 परसेंट बिजनेस हो रहा है, क्या आपको उसको और बढ़ाने का कोई आइडिया है?

SHRI JAIRMAN RAMESH: Sir, the location of MPEDA in Cochin has in no way deterred MPEDA's activities in other States. I would like to inform the hon. member that out of a total export of about $ 1.8 billion, Tamil Nadu accounts for about $ 450 million, Kerala itself accounts for about $ 350 million and Andhra Pradesh accounts for about $ 270 million. So, it is not true to say that the contribution of Kerala is miniscule. In fact, the centre of the sea-food processing industry is Cochin. That is one of the reasons why MPEDA was located in Cochin. Sir, we are taking a lot of efforts to develop the fisheries industry in other States. As I mentioned earlier, as far as inland aquaculture is concerned, the two new States that are being taken up are Gujarat and Maharashtra, which have about 40 per cent of India's potential and which has not been exploited. As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, this Government has located the National Fisheries Development Board in Hyderabad and as far as MPEDA is concerned, we have taken up a number of measures to build up testing laboratories, hatcheries, and a variety of other institutional mechanisms to promote fishery exports from Andhra Pradesh. In fact, Sir, the hon. Member would be pleased to know that just four months ago, we have located the National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture in Kakinada, and, if I recall right, sir, Kakinada was last in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Sitaram Yechury is from Kakinada. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, with your permission, I would say that the country has had the experience of Mohammad Bin Tuglak once. So, please do not ask about shifting of its headquarters from one place to another.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let's have the second supplementary.

श्री एस॰ एम॰ लालजन बाशा: सर, शिफ्टिंग की बात नहीं है, हम इसलिए बोल रहे हैं कि जहां ज्यादा बिजनेस हो रहा है, वहां वैजाक में भी बना सकते हैं। सर, दूसरी सप्लीमैंट्री, जितने भी पोर्ट्स हैं, वहां पर रजिस्ट्रेशन फीस किस हिसाब से कलैक्ट कर रहे हैं, मालूम नहीं है, लेकिन आप मनमाने ढंग से उनके ऊपर रजिस्ट्रेशन फीस डाल रहे हैं, जिसका कोई लौजिक नहीं है। आप जब रजिस्ट्रेशन फीस चार्ज करते हैं उनको क्या सहूलियत मिल रही है, यह भी देखें यह हमारे कंट्री के लिए बहुत फायदेमंद है, इसलिए उनके लिए फैसिलिटी इंक्रीज भी करना है, केवल पैसा कलैक्ट करना ही हमारा मकसद नहीं होना चाहिएं। कंट्री से बाहर भेजने के लिए उनको क्या फैसिलिटी देनी है, वह भी बताइए।

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि मैं परसों ही विशाखापत्तनम जा रहा हूं, जहां इसी मुद्दे पर बातचीत होगी अगर ट्यूना रजिस्ट्रेशन फीस एक बाधा है तो हम उसको घटाने के लिए भी तैयार हैं।

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, strengthening the MPEDA is one important aspect. Instead of keeping restrictions on the functioning of the organisation, we need to improve the human resource there in the organisation. This is one aspect. Secondly, you have talked about making India a processing hub. What are the steps taken by the Ministry for improving the processing units? And the third thing is related to improving the infrastructrue in Lakshadweep regarding tuna fish. We had been to that area. A very small unit is there. Is there any proposal with the Government of India to improve the infrastructure there?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, as far as processing is concerned, we have substantial processing capacity, but, for a variety of reasons, unfortunately, the capacity utlisation has not been more than twenty-five to thirty per cent. We are taking steps to ensure that India emerges as a processing hub. One of the proposals that is under examination in the Ministry of Agriculture—since we are not the relevant Ministry here — is to allow Indian processing

industry access to imported vanami fish which will be processed here and we export it through some value addition. These are proposals that are under examination for the fuller utilisation of our processing sector.

Sir, as far as Lakshadweep is concerned, there is some tuna activity going on in Lakshadweep. But as I mentioned in my earlier answer, Sir, almost twenty-five to thirty per cent of India's tuna potential is around the EEZ, the Exclusive Economic Zone in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and that is going to constitute the focus of our activity. But if investments are required to upscale the contribution of Lakshadweep, MPEDA would be prepared to make these investments.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, the hon. Minister has been kind enough to say what the Government of India is doing as far as improving the conditions for promoting exports of fish in Andhra. The specific question I would like to put is this. Is there any possibility of opening a branch office of MPEDA at Visakhapatnam? Sir, why I am saying this is because we don't want to shift the main office. The House should understand that there is no question of any demand for shifting the main office. But we want a branch office of MPEDA at Visakhapatnam, because, in the whole coast, from Bapatla to Visakhapatnam, there is a huge activity. ...*(Interruptions)*... Would the hon. Minister kindly answer it?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I think the hon. Member should be aware that there is a very substantial MPEDA presence already in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, we want an office. In what way the 'presence' is ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, we have offices in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I would like the hon. Member to be aware that there are offices in Andhra Pradesh. There are officers in Andhra Pradesh. We have located the National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture, which is run by MPEDA in Kakinada. The hon. Minister of State for Defence was present when this centre was inaugurated. So, we have very substantial offices. We have very substantial officers. We have very substantial investments. And, as I have mentioned, Sir, day-after-tomorrow I myself am going to Visakhapatnam to have a further discussion on what more we can do, specifically for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: That must include the branch office also.

श्री प्यारे लाल खंडेलवाल: सभापति महोदय धन्यवाद। यह बात सही है कि समुद्री उत्पाद से देश को काफी लाभ होता है। निर्यात होता है और फॉरेन एक्सचेंज भी मिलता है। मैं बताना चाहता हूं पिछले कुछ समय से ये समाचार लगातार आ रहे हैं कि भारत के समुद्री क्षेत्र में विदेशी नागरिक चोरी से घुसकर बड़ी मात्रा में समुद्री उत्पाद की चोरी करते हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हू कि इस चोरी को रोकने के लिए, जिसका असर हमारे देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था पर भी पड़ता है, सरकार क्या कारगर उपाय करने जा रही है? क्या पिछले कुछ दिनों में पास-पड़ोस के देशों के व्यक्ति इस चोरी में पकड़े गए हैं? अगर पकड़े गए हैं तो कितने पकड़े गए हैं और इससे कितना नुकसान हो रहा है?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, before I answer the hon. Member's question, I would like to say that there is a full-fledged MPEDA office in Visakhapatnam, which is one of the demands being made by the hon. Members. There is actually already a full-fledged regional office in Visakhapatnam. Sir, as far as the hon. Member's question is concerned, I don't like passing the buck, but the fact of the matter is, it is the Coast Guard that is responsible for managing and monitoring our coastline and the question must appropriately be put to the Minister of Defence, because MPEDA has virtually no role in this matter. Our role is confined

to promoting marine products' exports, Research & Development and quality control. As far as ensuring that foreign trawlers don't come and catch our fishing resources, this is almost entirely the prerogative and the domain of the Coast Guard, and I am sure, if the question is addressed to the Coast Guard, this would be answered.

*283. [The questioner(s) (Shri Ajay Maroo, Shri Rudra Narayan Pany) were absent. For answer *vide* page 23]

*284. [The questioner (Shri Jai Parkash Aggarwal) was absent. For answer *vide* page 24]

*285. [The questioner(s) (Shri Kanji Bhai Patel) was absent. For answer *vide* page 24]

*286. [The questioner (Shri O.T. Lepcha) was absent. For answer *vide* page 25]

Applying strategy of Punjab and Mizoram to wipe out militancy in other States

*287. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:††
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn some basic conclusions from Punjab and Mizoram from where militancy has been wiped out;

(b) if so, whether the success of security forces in these States reflected the need by other States to adopt a strategy that aimed at securing the confidence and support of the local population; and

(c) whether such a course of action will be charted by the Centre and popularized amongst insurgency-inflicted States to begin with?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Government has been adopting a multi-pronged approach and strategy to deal with the situation in areas affected by militancy and insurgency, etc., which, *inter-alia,* includes action on the security front, focus on accelerated development, good governance and measures for building confidence in the local population, including efforts to draw those involved in the militancy/insurgency into the mainstream. The experience gathered in the process of countering militancy and insurgency, etc., in different areas, is constantly used to formulate and calibrate strategies, plan and policies in this regard.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Sir, the hon. Minister has talked about the Home Department's multi-pronged approach and strategy to deal with various situations. I would like to say that insurgency-inflicted States require more security forces. Whenever there are elections in the neighbouring States of Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura, some security forces are shifted from Assam to those States. As a result, for lack of adequate security forces, many people die due to attack by terrorists. In Karbi Anglong, Tinsukia and

††The question was actually asked as the floor of the House by Shrimati Syeda Anwara Taimur.